

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated September 16, 2003, claims 1-18 are noted as pending.

Claims 1-9 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Saulsbury et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,128,702 (hereinafter Saulsbury). Claims 10-15 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Westberg et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,361,391 (hereinafter Westberg) in view of Saulsbury.

Objections to the Specification

The specification has been amended to cure the informality.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Saulsbury does not disclose a data cache located on a memory module controlled by a command sequencer and serializer unit in a memory controller where the memory controller and memory module are coupled together via a memory bus as claimed in amended claim 1. It should be noted that the command sequence and serializer unit and array of tag addresses are not located on the memory module, as indicated by the language of claim one describing a memory bus coupling the memory controller the memory module. The tag array, data cache, and memory bank in Saulsbury are all located on the same component. For these reasons, claim 1 is distinguished over Saulsbury.

The arguments made above in connection with claim one may be also applied to independent claims 10 and 16. Therefore, claims 1-18 are distinguished over Saulsbury.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Neither Westberg nor Saulsbury, either alone or in combination, disclose a memory controller including an array of tag address locations coupled to a memory module via a memory bus where the memory module includes a data cache controlled by the memory controller, as claimed in amended claim 10. Therefore, claims 10-15 are patentable over Westberg in view of Saulsbury.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that claims 1-18 are distinguished over the cited art and are in condition for allowance. Allowance of claims 1-18 is respectfully requested.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AUTHORIZATION

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional charges that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP


John Patrick Ward
Reg. No. 40,216

Dated: December 31, 2003

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025-1030
(408) 720-8598